Low standard medical syllabus

1941. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the proliferation is taking place in the private medical colleges in the country and standards are falling in the medical syllabus:

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRYOF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Any applicant, who is desirous of opening a new medical college in the private sector, is required to submit an application for that purpose as per the provisions of the Section 10 (A) of the IMC Act, 1956 alongwith Essentiality Certificate issued by the concerned State Government. While giving such an Essentiality Certificate, the State Government is required to indicate the availability of doctors in the State and the need for improving the availability of medical manpower in the State. It is also required to certify that the State Government has no objection to the establishment of the proposed medical college and that adequate clinical material for that purpose is available as per the Council's norms. The Council conducts an inspection for verification of the availability of the requisite facilities as per the Council's norms before making the recommendation to the Central Government for grant of Permission for the establishment of a new medical college. The Council also conducts periodic inspection of the already established medical colleges to ensure that the minimum facilities in terms of the Council's norms are available in such colleges. Necessary provisions are thus available in the Regulations of the Council to regulate the establishment of the medical colleges in the country and to prevent lowering of the standards of medical education.

Spurious/outdated drugs

1942. SHRI DARASINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain pharmaceutical companies who had taken huge loans from certain banks for maufacturing medicines had shown

that they have destroyed several tonnes of medicines that had expiry-dates but instead these medicines were pushed in the market for its sale in an unauthorised way; and

(b) if so, what deterrent punishment/action Government have taken till date against such pharmaceutical companies who have not only cheated banks but held responsible for playing with lives of thousands of innocent persons by selling outdated medicines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No such specific information has been received in this Ministr.

(b) Question does not arise in view of (a) above.

Betterment of medical education

1943. DR. K. KASTURIRANGAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Medical Council of India, responsible for betterment of medical education, has been challenged for malfunction;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken thereon; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to protect the autonomy and effective discharge of its functions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) The information will be collected and laid on the Table of the House.

CGHS for EPFO retired employees

1944. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employees of EPF Organisation are getting facility of CGHS which are covered under CGHS areas and have been issued CGHS cards, whereas the retired employees of EPF residing in CGHS covered areas are denied benefits of CGHS facilities; and